

# SPIRITUALISM NEW ZEALAND

2021 AGM

11 August 2021

The meeting was held on Zoom.

Meeting opened 7.37pm

**Welcome:** Joanne Duncan

**Opening Prayer:** Karena Dixon

**Attendees:** Joanne Duncan (President), Sue Boyle (Vice-President), Barbara Hand (Registrar), Anne Roughton (Treasurer & Upper Hutt Spiritualist Church), Tonni Pedersen (Secretary), Anne Pedersen (Board member & Hastings Spiritualist Church), Richard Parker (Board member), Gail Payne (Board member), Amanda Cartridge (Board member), Lyn Herriot (Board member), Karena Dixon (Board Member & South Auckland Spiritualist Church), Susan Kirker (IM), Robert Ritchie (IM), Anne Duncan, Frankie Schmid (IM), Diane Thomson (Spirit Wings), Grant Forbes (IM), Barbara Forbes (IM), Jan Nalder (IM), Sharon Jose (IM & Morrinsville Spiritualist Church), Fenella Gray (Petone Spiritualist Church), Fran Crawford (IM), Jane Stephens (IM), Gorden Goodall (IM, left the meeting early), Pauline Bliss (IM), Jen Swain-Nicholls (IM), Anne Bruford (joined the meeting late), Lee Hemming (IM), Crissie Chaplin, Saghir Ahmed (left the meeting early), Rosalvina Hemstra (joined the meeting at 8pm), Lizeth Chacon (joined the meeting at 8.10pm).

**Apologies:** Annette Rundle (IM), Jenny Unwin (IM), Suzanne Gibbs (IM), Sandy Bensemman (IM).

**Minutes of the 2020 AGM** were confirmed and accepted.

Moved: Richard Parker      Seconded: Lyn Herriot

Matters arising: None.

**President's Report** presented by Joanne Duncan. Accepted.

Moved: Tonni Pedersen      Seconded: Anne Pedersen

There were no matters arising.

**Treasurer's Report** presented by Anne Roughton. Accepted.

Moved: Anne Roughton      Seconded: Tonni Pedersen

Discussion: A question was asked as to whether the Porirua/Wellington Church monies would be reinvested. Anne explained that the investment is rolled over but the money is available should the churches wish to use it in the future.

**Registrar's Report** presented by Barbara Hand. Accepted.

Moved: Tonni Pedersen      Seconded: Frankie Schmid

There were no matters arising.

**Healing Report** presented by Anne Roughton. Accepted.

Moved: Anne Roughton      Seconded: Tonni Pedersen

Discussion:

The SNZ Board has set the healer practising fee this year at \$30 per spiritual healer. Anne explained the reason for the \$5 increase is that the cost of public liability insurance cover has increased. SNZ has

challenged the insurance increase, but it does still remain competitive compared to other insurance companies, and we can expect that it may increase annually. Some discussion took place.

Currently there are 59 spiritual healers in SNZ.

The SNZ Healing Manual is being updated, and sections re-written. As the update of each section is completed, that section will be posted on the healers' portal of the website. The manual will remain a living document, allowing new information to be added.

Barbara Hand and Joanne Duncan gave positive feedback about the recent SNZ healing training delivered to the Nelson Spiritualist Church. The training was well received and very worthwhile.

Richard Parker discussed the Christchurch Spiritualist Church undertaking its own police checks for healers. Anne Roughton explained that there is nothing stopping other organisations or churches doing their own police checks. SNZ will still need to undertake their own police check to register a healer with SNZ (as per clause 1 of the SNZ "Police Vetting Policy", published in Policy section of the SNZ website).

### **Confirmation of Board Members**

Joanne Duncan explained the Board member policy. Members are elected for a three-year term. Nobody can be re-elected for more than a maximum of three terms (i.e., nine years). They must then have at least a one-year stand-down before they can be on the Board again.

Under the SNZ Constitution, all Board members have to be re-nominated for their position every three years. Gail Payne, Lyn Herriot, and Amanda Cartridge do not need to be re-nominated this year but the remainder of the Board has now been in their positions for three years. (A vote would only need to be taken if there is more than one nomination for a national officer position).

Therefore re-nominations have been received for the following positions:

President	Joanne Duncan
Vice-President	Sue Boyle
Secretary	Tonni Pedersen
Treasurer	Anne Roughton
Registrar	Barbara Hand
Board Members	Anne Pedersen Richard Parker

Joanne Duncan moved that the re-nominations be accepted in bulk. Accepted.

Moved: Joanne Duncan

Seconded: Tonni Pedersen

The other Board members remain in place:

Gail Payne

Lyn Herriot

Amanda Cartridge

There has been one new nomination received for the Board, as discussed in the President's Report.

Pauline Bliss was nominated to join the Board. Accepted.

Moved: Joanne Duncan,

Seconded: Barbara Hand

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Karena Dixon's resignation from the Board was accepted. Karena's important role and work on the Board was acknowledged. As Joanne Duncan stated in her President's report, Karena's contribution will be greatly missed, and SNZ thanks her for her steady, calming presence, and her wise counsel.

## **General Business**

1. Subscription rates for the financial year:  
Membership fees remain un-changed.  
The annual practising fee for registered healers has increased to \$30 due to an increase in the public liability insurance cover.
2. Appointment of Reviewer of Annual Accounts  
Brent Shearer (Brent did the accounts this year)
3. Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary  
Richard Parker explained that the weekend of the SNZ Retreat is also the 75th anniversary of the Harry Edwards Sanctuary in the UK. Richard stated that it is therefore an auspicious date for the retreat, and further information can be found on the Harry Edwards Sanctuary Facebook. Some discussion took place.
4. Joanne informed the meeting that Jane Stephens has been nominated for an SNU (Spiritualist National Union, UK) award. Jane said that she has been undertaking an SNU platform course and has excelled with her assignments. She has very much enjoyed the course and will write more about it for the SNZ newsletter.
5. There were some general questions about spiritual healing and healer registration. Barbara Hand agreed to hold a small discussion session at the retreat to further explain the healing modality.

**Closing Prayer:** Karena Dixon thanked everyone for their wonderful work, and did the closing prayer.

Meeting closed 8.25pm